

October 4, 2016

Chairman Tom Wheeler
Federal Communications Commission
445 Twelfth Street, S.W.
Washington, D.C. 20554

Re: WC Docket Nos. 16-143, 05-25 & 15-247 and RM-10593

Dear Chairman Wheeler:

As competitive communications providers, our companies are committed to bringing more choice, better service and innovation to the business broadband marketplace. We serve business customers of all sizes—including our nation’s schools, universities, and educational facilities, hospitals and healthcare providers, and libraries and government agencies—with the business data services (BDS) needed for educational and research purposes, treating patients, and more. Some of us offer wireless service to consumers.

We feel strongly that Commission action is needed to increase competition, increase speeds, boost investment and lower prices for consumers.

For decades, the business data services marketplace has been plagued by monopoly rents that have inflated prices on high capacity broadband lines. These overcharges get passed onto customers and consumers who rely on high capacity broadband lines for their ATM machines and gas pumps. These lines also power our nation’s wireless backbone. One leading economist has estimated the impact on the economy of these overcharges has been as much as \$150 billion over the last five years.

All businesses—small, medium, and large—benefit from more choices and innovation, as it lowers prices and frees money for investment. As such, we write to you today to urge the FCC to adopt an Order that is technology neutral, and enshrine bi-partisan competition laws for the future while addressing the abuse of market power in the BDS market for both TDM and Ethernet services. Our nation is on the verge of unleashing a full 5G revolution, but it will not be unleashed, and the benefits to our economy will not be realized, unless the FCC takes action.

Recently, one of the nation’s leading incumbent providers, Verizon, joined with the leading competitive telecommunications association, INCOMPAS, on a compromise agreement that would end a decade of disagreement and move the nation forward to a better future.

Our companies support this compromise agreement as it will bring pricing relief and set a better path for more competition and fair access in the future.

Sincerely,

/s/ Jason Williams

Jason Williams

COO

Blackfoot Communications, Inc.

/s/ Deborah Ward

Deborah Ward

CEO

TSI

/s/ Dane Jasper

Dane Jasper

CEO and Founder

Sonic Telecom

/s/ Dale Schmick

Dale Schmick

COO

YourTel America, Inc.